

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the time and attention given to this application and in finding allowable subject matter, e.g., claims 7-9, 11, 19-21, 23, and 42-50 (Office Action, page 12). Applicants also thank the Examiner for granting a telephone interview on January 27, 2010 and for the helpful comments offered by him during the interview.

In this Response, Applicants amend claims 1, 8, 11, 13, 20, 23, 26-29, 31, 33, and 40, and cancel claims 7 and 19 without disclaimer or prejudice. No new matter has been added. Support for the claim amendments can be found at least in previously presented claims 7 and 19.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13-15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40-50 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 13, 26, 27, 33, 40, 42, and 47 are independent. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

I. Telephone Interview with the Examiner

An Examiner interview was conducted via telephone on January 27, 2010. During the interview, Applicants described the salient features of Applicants' claim 1, and argued that U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0021283 to See (hereafter "See") and U.S. Patent No. 6,158,010 to Moriconi (hereafter "Moriconi"), alone or in any combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest a service abstraction associated with the identity of an authenticated user, as recited in Applicants' claim 1.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over See and Moriconi (Office Action, page 2). Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40 as set forth below.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40 in view of See and Moriconi because, as stated in Applicants' previous Office Action Responses, See fails to disclose, teach or suggest service abstractions as claimed in the instant application. A combination of See and Moriconi fails to disclose, teach or suggest service abstractions as claimed in the instant application.

Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution, Applicants amend independent claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 7, and amend independent claim 13 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 19. Applicants amend independent claims 26, 27, 33, and 40 in a similar manner. The amendments to claims 1, 13, 26, 27, 33, and 40 should not be viewed as an acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection and characterization of the claimed invention in view of See and Moriconi.

A. Claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, and 41

Claims 1 and 13 are allowable for at least the reasons identified by the Examiner with respect to the allowable subject matter. More specifically, the Examiner recognizes that neither See nor Moriconi, alone or in any reasonable combination, disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 7 and 19. Claims 1 and 13 are amended to include the subject matter of claims 7 and 19, respectively and thus, for at least this reason, claims 1 and 13 are patentable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1 and 13.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 41 depend from independent claim 1 and, as such, include each and every feature of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 2, 3, 5, and 41.

Claims 14, 15, and 17 depend from independent claim 13 and, as such, include each and every feature of claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 14, 15, and 17.

B. Claims 26-29, 31, 33-35, 37, and 40

Applicants amend independent claims 26, 27, 33, and 40 in like manner to claims 1 and 13 to facilitate passage of the instant application to allowance. The amendments to claims 26, 27, 33, and 40 should not be viewed as an acquiescence to the Examiner's characterization of and rejection of the claimed subject matter in view of See and Moriconi. Therefore, claims 26, 27, 33, and 40 are allowable for at least the reasons identified by the Examiner with respect to the allowable claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 26, 27, 33, and 40.

Claims 28, 29, and 31 depend from independent claim 27 and, as such, include each and every feature of claim 27. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 28, 29, and 31.

Claims 34, 35, and 37 depend from independent claim 33 and, as such, include each and every feature of claim 33. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 34, 35, and 37.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a teleconference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' attorney at (617) 449-6500.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-4876, under Order No. 118156-01201. In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith, and the requisite petition does not accompany this response, the undersigned hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely.

Dated: April 30, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic Signature: /David R. Burns/
David R. Burns
Registration No.: 46,590
McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP
265 Franklin Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(617) 449-6500
(617) 607-9200 (Fax)
Attorney/Agent For Applicant